

REPORT OF NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 7th August 1886.

C. R.
36960INDIA OFFICE
6 SEP 1886

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ... ..	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahammadí"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....	Jyastha and Ashar.
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
4	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	
5	"Purva Darpan"	Ditto	700	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta	700	2nd August 1886.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	30th July 1886.
8	"Arya Pratibhá"	Halishahar ... ..	.....	31st ditto.
9	"Bangabási"	Calcutta	20,000	31st ditto.
10	"Bháratbási"	Ditto	3,000	31st ditto.
11	"Bhárat Mihir"	Ditto	2,500	29th ditto.
12	"Bherí and Kushadaha"	Ditto ... ..	.....	30th ditto.
13	"Burdwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	4th August 1886.
14	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	26th July 1886.
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	1st August 1886.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	30th July 1886.
17	"Garib"	Dacca ... ..	.....	4th August 1886.
18	"Grambási"	Uluberia ... ..	.....	31st ditto.
19	"Grámvartá Prakashiká"	Comercolly	500	
20	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	
21	"Kamalá"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
22	"Mussulman Bandhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....
23	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	508	
24	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
25	"Nava Medini"	Midnapore ... ..	.....	24th July 1886.
26	"Navavibhákár Sádharani"	Calcutta	1,000	2nd August 1886.
27	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	24th July 1886.
28	"Prájá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	30th ditto.
29	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	600	30th ditto.
30	"Púrva Bangabási"	Noakholly ... ..	.....	25th ditto.
31	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	29th ditto.
32	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	28th ditto.
33	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	30th ditto.
34	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	31st ditto.
35	"Sáptáhi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
36	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	400	31st ditto.
37	"Som Prakash"	Changripottá, 24-Pergha.	1,000	2nd August 1886.
38	"Srimanta Saudagar"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	2nd ditto.
39	"Sudhápán"	Ditto ... ..	.....
40	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Ditto	3,000	
41	"Surabhi and Patáka"	Ditto	700	29th July 1886.
<i>Daily.</i>				
42	"Dainik"	Calcutta	7,000	1st to 5th August 1886.
43	"Samvád Prabháhar"	Ditto	200	3rd to 5th and 7th August 1886.
44	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	30th and 31st July and 2nd to 7th
45	"Samachar Chandriká"	Ditto	625	[August 1886.]
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakashiká"	Ditto	500	
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
47	"Kshatriya Pratika"	Patna ... ..	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
48	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
49	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ... ..	.....
50	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	29th July 1886.
51	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	2nd August 1886.
52	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	4,500	31st July 1886.
53	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta	250	30th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
55	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	
56	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	150	
57	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ... ..	.....	30th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
58	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
59	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	30th and 31st July and 2nd to 6th
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
60	"Taraka and Subhavaritá"	Cuttack ... ..	.....
61	"Shikshábandhu"	Ditto ... ..	.....
62	"Pradíp"	Ditto ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
63	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack	200	24th July 1886.
64	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Balasore	205	22nd ditto.
65	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	24th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 29th July, says that Russia has converted Batoum which was a free port under the Berlin treaty into a Russian port. She has made a secret treaty with Persia, by which the Shah has ceded a portion of his territories near Herat to her. She has opened a gun foundry on the Baltic Sea in order that she may not be dependent on others for the supply of arms. What are the English doing now?

SCRADEI & PATAKA,
July 29th, 1886.

2. The *Samaya*, of the 30th July, says that some persons who have come from Thibet to Lahore say that goods for sale will not come from Thibet this year. A war between Thibet and Nepal has become imminent. The cause of this hostility has not yet become known. The Thibetan Government is taking every able-bodied Thibetan into the army. The writer cannot say whether the war will be undertaken against Nepal or some other power.

SAMAYA,
July 30th, 1886.

3. The *Praja Bandhu*, of the 30th July, says that an impression is gaining ground in India, that the English are very much afraid of Russia. Russophobia has led the English to form the project of delimiting the Russo-Afghan frontier. The English section of the Boundary Commission was doing its duty under great difficulties, but it has now fallen out with the Russian section of the Commission. The Russians are establishing a gun foundry on the Black Sea. They are extending their railways so rapidly that they will soon be at the gates of India, and a quarrel between the Lion and the Bear will become inevitable. In the case of a war, the natives are sure to take the side of the English. The natives love the English Government with all their heart, and they will sacrifice their lives gladly for the good of that Government. The English should trust natives from this time. It would be foolish on their part to depend on English soldiers living thousands and thousands of miles away. They cannot move a single step without the assistance of the natives. However well the frontier may be fortified, without the assistance of natives nothing will be able to stem the tide of Russian advance. The Amir of Cabul may not improbably at a single frown of the Emperor of Russia submit to him.

PRAJA BANDHU,
July 30th, 1886.

4. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 31st July, says that disturbances in Burmah commenced from the time of the capture of King Theebaw. At that time Government did not listen to the advice given to it by the writer as to placing a Burmese Prince on the throne. The rulers were then of opinion that the annexation of Burmah in the name of the Queen would put an end to all troubles; but the Burmese have not yet submitted. There are at present 23,000 troops and 5,000 police constables in Burmah, and still there are skirmishes going on over a tract of country 100 miles in extent. The expense of this sort of guerilla warfare is not small, but Government will perhaps say that Rs. 30,00,000 have not yet been spent. Lord Lytton, too, said during the Afghan war that the cost of the war was very small; but when he went home a mistake of Rs. 3,00,00,000 was discovered in the accounts. Lord Dufferin resembles Lord Lytton in many respects. The actual expenses of the Burmese war will probably be known to the people when His Lordship goes home. There is no doubt that he has acted indiscreetly in the matter of the Burmese war. By annexing Burmah he has displayed the selfishness of the English nation before the world. He has done wrong by spending India's money in Burmah, and has given a pretext to Russia for interfering in the affairs of India on the plea of its misgovernment in the same way that he has interfered in the affairs of Burmah.

BHARAT BASI,
July 31st, 1886.

DAINIK,
Aug. 1st, 1886.

5. The *Dainik*, of the 1st August, says that the Thibet Mission has been withdrawn, but its results are yet to be seen. This is a year of financial difficulty,

The Thibet Mission.
but a very large amount of money has been spent in fitting out the Mission. Not satisfied with the imposition of the income-tax, projects are being made for sucking the life-blood of the natives in secret. Baboo Sarat Chunder Das will have to suffer much in connection with the Mission. It is said that Government has become greatly annoyed with him for his unwillingness to proceed to Thibet.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

6. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 2nd August, says that it would have been well if Upper Burmah had not been annexed; but since it has been annexed,

Burmah.
Government cannot give it up; and the sooner therefore peace is established in that country the better for the people of India, who have been doubtless made to pay some new tax or other to enable Government to meet the enormous expenditure it has had to incur there in warlike operations. Lord Dufferin and Mr. Bernard are doubtless sparing no efforts to establish peace in Burmah, but it is difficult to say when and how the troubles in that country will end.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

7. The same paper says that, though there has been considerable waste of public money in connection with the Thibet Mission, Lord Dufferin has conferred a great benefit upon the country by countermanding it.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

8. The *Som Prakash*, of the 2nd August, says that Russia is prepared to cross the Indus treading on the heads of hundreds of thousands of people, but she has no money, and so an invasion of India

Extension of Russian railways towards India.
by her appears to be impossible. But the Government of India too is on the verge of bankruptcy. If the English can be prepared at this time of financial difficulty to make war on a powerful Empire, why cannot Russia do the same? The *Pioneer* says that the English should increase their military strength in India, and the writer is of the same opinion too. But he cannot advise Government to ignore the people of India altogether in the same way as the *Pioneer* does. When the natives of India will have to support the English by depriving themselves of the bare necessities of life, the money they give should not go to foreigners. It should go back to the natives. The English should not ignore natives altogether. The writer does not understand why the English distrust natives. The faithful support of the natives alone enabled the English to tide over the Sepoy war. The English do not perhaps remember those days now. The English have tested the loyalty of the natives by the severest test possible. If they now go to war without the natives, they will simply display their want of manliness.

SANVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 3rd, 1886.

9. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 3rd August, in noticing the telegram of the 24th July about a settlement with China, says that the treaty has not been

Treaty with China.
ratified, and that the preliminaries only have been settled. The apprehensions of danger are not yet over. There is no knowing what will happen at the time of the delimitation of the Burmo-Chinese frontier. If China demands Bhamo, it is not yet known whether Government will respect that claim. There may arise difficulties also in connection with commerce. The writer thinks that Government should cultivate friendly relations with China, for if China is so disposed it can raise a great storm on the Burmese frontier. The writer is glad that the English have, at the instance of China, withdrawn the Thibet Mission.

10. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th August, in noticing the withdrawal of the Thibet Mission, says that India will be glad to be relieved of the expenses of the Mission. But, asks the writer, what benefit will India derive from the large expenses incurred in fitting out the Mission? What benefit would she have derived if the Mission had succeeded? Why has so much useless expenditure been incurred without ascertaining at first whether the Llama of Thibet would consent to receive the Mission or not? The money belongs to the people of India, but they have no right of asking an explanation for its waste. Government is spending people's money just as it pleases. Should there be no enquiry made on the subject?

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

11. The *Samaya*, of the 30th July, says that the police should make enquiries about the sale of adulterated ghee in Calcutta. The editor is receiving many letters on the subject.
12. The *Sarasvat Patra*, of the 31st July, says that the lowest officer in the Police Department is the head constable, whose pay is from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25. This pay is inadequate; and good men cannot accept the appointment on such a low salary. By its stinginess in this matter, Government has become the cause of the grief of many people. Those who serve for Rs. 10 only cannot be expected to respect truth, justice, and righteousness. The head constable class should be abolished altogether, and their duties entrusted to the punchayets selected after due care. The pay of the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors should be increased to enable educated men to enter the Police service. The Assistant Superintendents of Police have to sign papers and to do nothing else. They are very highly paid. Their posts may be abolished. There is no necessity for the posts of District Superintendents of Police. When Government is not willing to separate the judicial and the executive powers of the Magistrates, there is no necessity for paying Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,300 to the Superintendents of Police for carrying out the executive orders of Magistrates.
13. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th August, says that a constabulary has been appointed in the place of chowkidars in the city of Burdwan. The constables think that all the citizens are subject to their orders. They never respect the citizens. They cry out every night householder! householder! awake! arise! They often strike the doors and windows of the people so vehemently that the noise alarms the inmates then fast asleep. The writer does not understand why those whose duty it is to catch thieves make so much noise.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

14. A correspondent of the *Nava Medini* of the 24th July, says that the oppressions practised by Mr. Mendes, the Officer in charge of the collections in the khas mehals in Midnapore, are well known to the readers of the *Nava Medini*. During the absence of Mr. Mendes on leave, Hem Baboo discharged his duties. Mr. Mendes had a book called the Savings Book placed in the custody of his favourite cashier Suryakumar Barmana. Hem Baboo suspended the cashier and asked him to account for all the money placed in his custody. From that time the cashier has vanished. Mr. Mendes's previous sheristadar, Baboo

Gorachand Ghosh, is still living in concealment. If he is apprehended the achievements of Mr. Mendes in the thick jungles at Naruamutha will become known. The writer has learnt from a trustworthy source that the Savings Book and other irregularities of Mr. Mendes's office were reported by Hem Baboo to the Collector who sent Baboo Kalinkar Sen to make an enquiry. The writer is anxious to know the results of the enquiry.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
July 29th, 1886.

15. The *Surabhi and Pataká*, of the 29th July, says that Khanta Domni brought a case against Mr. Pinchea.

The Pinches case.

For this crime of hers she has been sentenced to three months', and her husband who came to help her to three years' imprisonment. The Pleader Babu Apurva Krishna Pal is in difficulty. Babu Brajanath Bezbarua and Dharmesvar Barua have been proceeded against in the criminal court. Perhaps these are the correspondents of the *Sanjivani*. The writer has become surprised at the history of the case. The writer warns the Government on this subject. If such things happen repeatedly the Assamese are sure to become greatly excited, the consequences of which excitement need not be dilated upon.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

16. The same paper hears from the *Beaver* newspaper that some European soldiers went on a hunting excursion to Palamow near Delhi.

Shooting of natives near Delhi.

There they shot down several peacocks, and a Brahman lad of 18, because the lad asked the soldiers not to go through the cornfields. The lad when shot began to cry aloud, which brought a large number of men to the spot. These gave the soldiers a sound thrashing for which crime they have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment by the Deputy Commissioner who tried the case, while the murderer has been discharged. The writer cannot say whether the natives are awake or asleep.

BHARAT MIHIR,
July 29th, 1886.

17. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 29th July, says that an agitation has

The Original Side of the High Court.

been going on for some years past for the purpose of abolishing the Original Side of the High Court, and of establishing in its stead a Court in Calcutta similar to a District Court. The Bengali inhabitants of Calcutta made a memorial to Government on this subject, but nothing has yet been done in this matter, because the abolition of the Original Side would deprive many Englishmen of their bread. The European Judges of the High Court have stood against the proposal, because if it were carried out English Barristers and English Attorneys would become losers. But it behoves Government to abolish the Original Side of the High Court from considerations of justice. The Finance Committee has proposed to transfer certain classes of suits from the Original Side to the Small Causes Court, but would maintain that Side for the disposal of certain other classes of suits. This proposal does not go far enough. What is the necessity of maintaining the Original Side at all? If a court were established in Calcutta similar to a District Court, and the rate of court-fees were made uniform with that obtaining in the mofussil, instead of being losers, Government would be a gainer. It would not have mattered much if the public had been able to obtain the benefit of the Original Side at the risk of loss to Government. But this is not the case; the Original Side is simply ruining the people.

SAMAYA,
July 30th, 1886.

18. The *Samaya*, of the 30th July, says that the Legal Practitioners'

Removal of touters from courts.

Act has in no way fettered the movements of touters. Mr. Buckland of Howrah tried hard to remove them from his court. Mr. Maguire also is trying to remove them from the Magistrate's court at Alipore. But the touters are not removed. Even if a touter is punished he is sure to be released by the High Court, for there is no definition of touter in the law. If the judicial officers do not insist upon technical points, the parties can act for

themselves, and thus touters may be removed. Thus if on a very rainy day a judicial officer postpones the case of a suitor in his absence knowing that the rain has prevented him from coming, will the law be disregarded? But the writer is sure that no judicial officer shows such consideration.

19. The *Pratikár*, of the 30th July, is not so much surprised at the oppressions practised by tea-planters on coolie women as at the attempt on the part of Magistrates to check the complainants instead of the accused persons. Khanta Domni has been committed to the criminal court for complaining against Mr. Pinches for violating her. Rumour has it that the *Sanjivani* newspaper will be proceeded against for divulging the secrets of the case.

PRATIKAR,
July 30th 1886.

20. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st July, says that the English jurors have acquitted the Assam planter Gibbons, who had been committed to the sessions for preparing a forged agreement purporting to have been made by a coolie, in spite of clear evidence of his guilt. The Judge disagreeing with the verdict of the jury, has sent the papers of the case to the High Court. Planters are acquitted in this manner by English jurors.

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1886.

21. The same paper refers to the following telegram:—"One European tea-planter in the Misamara garden having been complained against by a coolie, caught hold of the writer of complaint, a native petition-writer, and whipped him in court. The petition-writer snatched the whip from the planter's hand and paid him back in his own coin. This occurred on Friday last in sight of Captain Henderson, Sub-divisional Officer, Golaghat, who interfered and separated them. The belligerents went away with bleeding face and ears. The native is named Thanuram, and says that the true means has been found for teaching wicked planters a lesson. Thanuram cannot be sufficiently praised.

SANJIVANI.

22. The same paper, referring to the news that the Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar has sentenced the female coolie Khanta to three months' imprisonment, says that dreadful things have begun to happen. A helpless woman brought a charge of outrage of chastity against an Englishman, but her case was not properly tried, and the poor woman was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for bringing a charge against an Englishman. The writer knows that the life of a prisoner is far happier than that of a coolie, and that Khanta will be happy in jail; but what oppressions have commenced under British rule? If the telegrams which the writer has received on the subject from confidential sources are to be believed, it must be said that English Judges have unjustly sent a helpless woman living far away from her home to jail by trampling upon laws. The English accused has been acquitted, and the unfortunate native female has been sent to jail. The Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar has outdone even Mr. Arbuthnot in the matter of oppression. Khanta's husband came to Sibsagar to help his wife who had been accused of bringing a false suit in defending herself. But in a few hours he was prosecuted and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Have justice and righteousness fled from India? The English Courts are called seats of justice. Are they to be thus disgraced by dishonest and unrighteous men? The writer can bear such injustice no more. Will Government remain indifferent? What is the use of the authorities remaining rulers if they have not the leisure to remedy such oppressions? Because natives are dead and inert masses of flesh, they are sitting idle after such oppressions. One's blood boils in one's veins when one thinks of

SANJIVANI.

Assam. It is said that criminal cases have been instituted against Babus Brajanath Bezbarua and Dharmesvar Barua because they assisted Khanta and her husband in conducting her case.

BANGABASI,
July 31st, 1886.

23. The *Bangabási*, of the 31st July, says that anarchy is going to increase in Assam. Such dreadful things are taking place in it that it has become necessary that the authorities should keep a sharp eye on that province. The majority of the people are uneasy in mind owing to fear. Unable to bear oppression some have taken the law into their own hands. A telegram has recently been received from Assam to the following effect:—A European tea-planter of Misamara in Sibsagar, Assam, against whom a complaint was laid by a coolie before Captain Henderson, the Sub-divisional Officer, Golaghat, went to that court, and upon seeing there the native who had drawn up the petition against him for the coolie whipped him in Court. Upon this the petition-writer snatched the whip from the planter's hand and paid him in his own coin. The Sub-divisional Officer separated them. Then both of them went away with bloody persons.

This event proves that the planters are generally unruly. It has become indispensably necessary that Government should check these planters. The case of rape brought against Pinches by the coolie woman Khanta was unjustly dismissed without any enquiry, and Khanta was charged with having given false evidence. From a telegram of the 24th July, it appears that Government and not Pinches has accused Khanta of the above offence. The Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar has sentenced Khanta to three months' imprisonment. Another strange thing is that the Government pleader upon seeing that Khanta's husband also had not been prosecuted, instantly asked the Deputy Commissioner's permission to prosecute him. Khanta's husband who had come to assist his wife in her case was in a few hours sentenced to three years' imprisonment, though the law does not provide for more than two years' imprisonment for the offence with which he was charged. The writer has heard of instances of injustice under British rule, but never of an instance of such gross injustice. Will not this injustice be remedied? Will Government remain indifferent to the matter? Will the people also sit silent? The Manager of the Jorehat State Railway informed the Magistrate of Jorehat of a complaint about some disorder in the management of the railway made by Baboo Brajanath Bezbarua in a letter. The Magistrate instantly issued a summons against Baboo Brajanath under section 182 of the Penal Code. A telegram has also been received to the effect that a criminal suit has been brought against Babu Brajanath Bezbarua and Dharmesvar Barua for assisting Khanta and her husband in the conduct of their case. All this is very disgraceful.

BHARAT BASI,
July 31st, 1886.

24. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 31st July, says that the condition of the record-rooms in the mofussil courts has improved greatly of late; but still there is much to be done. Recently new words have been inserted in a certain judgment at the Hooghly Court. Sometimes sheets of paper are substituted in the records. If Government appoints educated men with handsome salaries as amlah, such malpractices may come to an end.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 1st, 1886.

25. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 1st August, says that Mr. Marindin, the District Magistrate of Mymensing, while at Tangail on tour, tried his best to make himself acquainted with the internal condition of the place.

He sent for the educated men of the locality, and asked them what their wants were. His frankness and courteousness have pleased everybody.

26. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 2nd August, says that it does not know whether the case brought by Khanta Domni against Pinches is true or

Khanta Domni's case.

false; but the fact of such cases being brought naturally awakens suspicious in one's mind. The tea-gardens are situated in the midst of distant wildernesses. The managers exercise great authority over the coolies. It appears, from what is generally said of these plantations, that the condition of the coolies there is much like that of the American slaves of former times. Again, it can be easily believed from what is known of the helplessness of the Bengali peasantry during the ascendancy of the indigo planters in this province that, the condition of the coolies in Assam is extremely deplorable. They are completely at the mercy of the tea-planters. In Assam a coolie can very rarely win a criminal case against a European tea-planter. One cannot therefore readily believe that Khanta Domni brought a false case against Pinches.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

27. The same paper says that it appears from the letter of a correspondent that not a few local officials in Assam have resolved that, not only should people be

Khanta Domni's case.

prevented from bringing criminal cases against tea-planters, but that means should be used for preventing people from assisting in any way the complainants in such cases. This resolve on the part of officials would indeed be commendable if it were true that, the coolies are in the habit of bringing false cases against the tea-planters; but it would be alarming if the resolve were due to some other cause.

28. The *Garib*, (a new paper), of the 4th August, notices that Mr. Douglas, Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong

The Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong.

has ordered that if any one speaks in a low tone in his court the chaprasi will prick his body with a pin, and if any one speaks aloud he is to be confined in the prisoner's dock.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

GARIB,
Aug. 4th, 1886

(d)—Education.

29. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 19th July, is glad to notice that the Midnapore Municipality has taken over the charge of the Midnapore College.

The Midnapore College.

The order of the Lieutenant-Governor greatly alarmed the writer. The Municipality has done a great service to Midnapore.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
July 19th, 1886.

30. The *Nava Medini*, of the 24th July, says that the Lady Superintendentship of the Bethune School has fallen vacant. There is no want of educated native ladies in Bengal, and so the writer requests

The Lady Superintendent of the
Bethune School.

the authorities to appoint one of the native ladies to the post.

NAVA MEDINI,
July 24th, 1886.

31. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 29th July, says that Government is trying to introduce technical education into this country. The writer is glad that Lord

Technical education.

Dufferin has written to the Provincial Governments on the subject, and that he is anxious for the improvement of technical education. He hopes that technical education will be introduced shortly into this country, and remove the scarcity of food.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
July 29th, 1886.

32. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st July, says that it has no objection to Government's abolishing colleges in those

Abolition of colleges.

places where the people are willing to take charge of high education; but it cannot consent to Government's abolishing colleges wherever it pleases. The educational expenditure is very small in India. That expenditure should not be further reduced. Where the

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1886.

people are ready to take charge of high education, Government may abolish colleges, and spend the money thus saved upon mass education. This policy was recommended by Lord Ripon and the Education Commission. In Calcutta, where there are many colleges, the Presidency College may be abolished; but it is not politic to spread mass education at the expense of high education. Instead of following that policy, Government is going to abolish the mofussil colleges. There is no other college in Moorshedabad than the Berhampore College. High education has not yet sufficiently spread in that district. The old merchants of Moorshedabad have become ruined. Only two persons in Moorshedabad—the Nawab of Moorshedabad and the Maharani Surnomoyi—are well off. The former maintains a high school. Government is going to retire from the direction of high education in Moorshedabad, relying upon the liberality of Maharani Surnomoyi. The whole country look to her for the maintenance of the college. But the Government which can thus abolish a college relying upon the liberality of a single individual, cannot be sufficiently condemned.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

33. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 2nd August, says that this year there are five Bengali members in the Syndicate of the Calcutta University, none of whom has any connection with the Education Department. Because in former years men belonging to the Education Department formed the majority in the Syndicate, justice was not respected in the selection of examiners. The *Hindu Patriot* once complained, and not quite unreasonably that, the Syndicate which was mainly guided by the authorities of the Education Department repeatedly appointed their proteges as examiners, in order to give them a few hundreds of rupees. Such partiality diminished a little some time ago. Some time ago outsiders were being appointed examiners along with men belonging to the Education Department. The University has never been able to find any fault with the work of these outsiders. Though accusations have been made against examiners belonging to the Education Department, no accusation has ever been made against these outsiders. For this reason the writer hoped that the Syndicate would encourage competent outsiders, and prove its own impartiality by appointing such persons as examiners; but the Syndicate's action has pained the writer. Justice has not been done this year by the Syndicate to the competent outsiders who applied for examinerships. Almost every examiner has been selected from the Education Department. Many of the Bengali members of the Syndicate have supported the cause of the Education Department.

DAINIK,
Aug. 3rd, 1886.

34. A correspondent, of the *Dainik*, of the 3rd August, is sorry to notice the transfer of Babu Mukundaram Vidyabagish, M.A., the Second Master, Furreedpore Zillah School to Balasore on promotion. His mode of teaching is excellent. His frankness has charmed all classes of men at Furreedpore.

DAINIK,
Aug. 4th, 1886.

35. The *Dainik*, of the 4th August, says that the only institutions for practical training in Bengal, are the Medical and Engineering Colleges. But they are almost useless. The authorities do not understand their responsibility in this matter. But the condition of the Engineering Colleges is heart-rending. These do not produce the result expected of them. Mr. Tawney has written a letter to the University on this subject at the instance of the Lieutenant-Governor. In connection with the agitation in this matter, the question of the Cooper's Hill College will be raised. The authorities will understand that as long as the Cooper's Hill College exists, Indian Engineering Colleges will not prosper.

When all the higher appointments are to be enjoyed by the students of the Cooper's Hill College, and those of Indian Colleges are to become their subordinates, there is no necessity for extending engineering knowledge in the country. The Roorkee College is the first Engineering College in India, but the majority of its students have to pass their days as head masons, model mistries, sub-overseers, or at most overseers. A few only can rise to the rank of Assistant Engineers. If Government looks to the matter impartially, it will see that the students of the Cooper's Hill College serving in India will not be able to effect great improvements, but at the same time they will absorb a large amount of India's money.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

36. The *Ahammadi*, for Jayaistha and Ashar, is sorry to notice that though such a backward district as Rungpore has received self-government, Mymensingh which is not inferior to any district in Bengal has been excluded from it.

Exclusion of Mymensingh from Self-Government.

AHAMMADI,
Jayaistha and Ashar.

37. The *Nava Medini*, of the 24th July, has received a letter from an unknown party on the subject of the elections at Contai, and of the ill-treatment received by the voters at the hands of the presiding officer, Moulvi Abdul Kader. The editor hears that, dissatisfied with the elections, the inhabitants of Contai have applied to the Magistrate of the district. The writer hopes that the Magistrate will enquire into the truth of the complaint of the people. The elections at the Debra thana too have not been properly conducted. Baboo Kailas Chandra Ghosh the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the Canal Irrigation Department, was the presiding officer there, and made several mistakes. On the day of election some of the candidates were not present, and the officer asked the voters to give their votes for those candidates who were present.

Elections at Contai.

NAVA MEDINI.
July 24th, 1886.

38. The *Charu Varta*, of the 26th July, does not understand why Mymensingh, which is inferior to no district in Bengal in education, civilization and wealth, should be excluded from the enjoyment of the privilege of self-government, which has been bestowed on 16 districts of Bengal.

Exclusion of Mymensingh from Self-government.

CHARU VARTA,
July 26th, 1886.

39. The *Bharat Mihir*, of the 29th July, says that it is to be regretted that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality do not attend to the complaints of the rate-payers. Most of the Commissioners are Bengalis, and the Calcutta Municipality is the model of a self-governing body in Bengal. Any mismanagement therefore in the affairs of the Calcutta Municipality cannot be allowed to remain unnoticed. The difference that is observable between the roads in the northern and southern quarters of Calcutta reflects great discredit on the municipality. The roads in the northern quarter of the town cannot at all compare with those in the southern quarter. There are more lights in the southern quarter than in the northern. While all the roads in the southern quarter are every day watered twice, there are roads in the northern quarter which are not watered even once every day. There are many streets in that quarter which have not been watered since the day they were made. The roads in the northern quarter are so uneven that the rain-water collects in many places, and they are thus covered with mud. Why is such difference made between the northern and southern quarters? If there are such race distinctions, even in the Calcutta Municipality, what wonder that English judicial officers should make such distinctions? Are not the Commissioners aware of these things? If they are, why is there no remedy forthcoming?

The Calcutta Municipality.

BHARAT MIHIR,
July 29th, 1886.

BHARAT MITRA,
July 29th, 1886.

40. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 29th July, says that adulterated ghee may injure the health of those who do not take meat by exciting loathing in their mind while taking it. Government should provide for the punishment of adulterators of ghee. Both Hindus and Mussulmans are suffering inconvenience from the adulteration of ghee.

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1886.

41. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 31st July, contradicts the statement of a former correspondent who wrote that the election work had been conducted in a most satisfactory manner by the Deputy Magistrate of Uluberiah, and says that everybody who saw how the work of election was conducted knows whether it was satisfactorily or unsatisfactorily done, and that hundreds of voters of Amtah have petitioned the Magistrate complaining of the unsatisfactory manner in which the work of election was conducted, and praying for a fresh election. The former correspondent said that the Deputy Magistrate allowed the correspondent of the *Grāmbāsī* to be present in the courtyard of the thana. This means that he allowed the correspondent to be present among the crowd of voters in the street before the thana or on one of the two sides of the thana. Though there was accommodation for 8 or 10 gentlemen in the verandah of the thana besides the Deputy Magistrate and his two or three subordinates, he did not allow the correspondent to be present there, but repeatedly told him to go away from that place.

GRAMVASI,
July 31st, 1886.

42. The *Grāmbāsī*, of the 31st July, says that the elections at Uluberiah are over. The time has not yet come for judging of their results. All that can be said for certain is that, the object of Government has not been fulfilled, that party spirit in its worst form will become rampant in this country, and that the officers of Government will foment it. If this be the case, even the friends of self-government must admit that it is not necessary. Has Government introduced this system for ruining the country, and for destroying the religion and morality of the people?

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 1st, 1886.

43. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 1st August, says that the elections were not properly conducted at Munshigunge, and so the people of the locality have applied to the Magistrate to hold them again. The Magistrate has written to the Commissioner on the necessity of holding them again at Munshigunge. The writer does not understand why the people of Manikgunge do not apply for holding elections again.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

44. The *Navavibhakar Sadhāranī*, of the 2nd August, is glad that, at the municipal meeting held on last Thursday, the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta discussed the subject of the adulteration of ghee. The Commissioners have requested Government to insert a provision for the punishment of the manufacturers and sellers of adulterated ghee in the Municipal Act.

ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

45. The *Ananda Bazar Patrikā*, of the 2nd August, says that many will probably read with a feeling of disappointment, the instructions which the Lieutenant-Governor has recently given to the Commissioners on the subject of local self-government. In the Act passed by His Honor there is no trace of the form of local self-government which Lord Ripon wished to give to the people. Moreover, the Self-Government Acts, passed for other provinces of India, are in many respects superior to that passed for Bengal. Again, the privileges conferred upon the people by the Bengal Act are considerably curtailed, and in some cases withdrawn by the

instructions given to the Commissioners. The Lieutenant Government believes that it is not well to establish Union Committees at the outset. His fears in this connection are but natural, but after a perusal of Mr. Westmacott's report on this subject, such fears are needless. Even if the provisions of the Act regarding this matter were not strictly followed, and a Union Committee were established in every thana of a subdivision, there would not be much harm done. The Local Self-Government rules are very nearly those which are at present in operation regarding matters to which they are applicable. There is at present a Committee in almost every subdivision much like the Local Self-Government Boards which are about to be established. Consequently the form in which the Lieutenant-Governor is granting Self-Government will not confer any very important privileges upon natives or facilitate the transaction of business. The subdivisions in this country are large in extent, and contain a large population. It will be impossible for the members of the Local Boards to exercise supervision over the whole subdivision, and this was recognised when provision was made in the law for the establishment of Union Committees. By putting off the establishment of these Committees, the Lieutenant-Governor has rendered impossible the benefit which the law would have probably conferred upon natives. Formerly Government used to appoint members of Road Cess and similar Committees; but as now a portion of the members of the Local Boards will be elected by the people. Government may think that it is a valuable privilege conferred upon them, and that owing to this consideration they may not feel much injured if the election of the members of Union Committees be put off for the present. Of course, if the privileges granted to the people regarding the election of members for the Local Boards had really benefited them, they would have been for the present content with what they had obtained. But does not His Honor see under what restrictions and safeguards this privilege of election has been granted to them? In the first place, there is the provision that the District Boards will have the charge of all important works, and that only one-half of the number of its members will be elected by the people, Government appointing the other half. Government will, moreover, as is pointed out in the instructions now issued to the Divisional Commissioners, have the power of appointing *ex-officio* members. The result of this will be that the people will have little control over the District Boards.

46. The *Garib*, of the 4th August, says that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality have made arrangement for driving tram cars on the Chowringhee and Kidderpore tram lines at night with bells ringing. The writer thinks that this arrangement has been arrived at because European ladies and gentlemen drive a long the roads in the maidan. But the same arrangement has not been made for driving cars through the crowded thoroughfare called the Chitpore Road, because the crowds on this road are composed of barefooted natives without any covering for half their bodies. The arrangement has been made by the representatives of the people. This is self-government indeed! It should be called slave government instead!

47. The same paper says that according to the Slave Government Act (as it calls the self-government Act), half the members of the District Boards are to be elected by the people, and the other half appointed by Government. In many districts the total number of members is an uneven number, such as 25, 21, 17. In calculating the half of these numbers the majority has been practically secured on behalf of Government. With the Magistrate as Chairman with two

GARIB,
Aug. 4th, 1886.

GARIB.

Ring of bells on the Chowringhee and Kidderpore tram lines.

District and Local Boards.

votes and the majority of appointed members to back him, the Board will have no independence. Fine Self-Government indeed!

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

DACCA PRAKASH.
Aug. 1st, 1886.

48. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 1st August, learns from a correspondent that Babu Hem Chunder Chowdhury of Ambaria, who has purchased a fourth share of the village of Bharua, has surveyed the lands without the consent of the ryots, and has taken kabuliyats from them by unfair means. These ryots have therefore applied to the Joint-Magistrate of Tangail for the preservation of the peace.

(h)—General.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
July 19th, 1886.

49. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 19th July, says that Government often makes rules for the regulation of ferry ghats, but it never enquires whether these rules are observed or not. There is a public ferry at Kakinia in Rungpore where people as a rule, cannot cross in time. Everyone who goes to Kakinia from Rungpore, says that arriving at the ghat at 11 in the morning one can scarcely cross the river at dusk. The writer thinks that Government should make secret enquiries into these matters if it wants to know the truth.

PARIDARSHAK,
July 24th, 1886.

50. The *Paridarshak* of the 24th July, says that many high officers are in the habit of saying that in cold regions men can work harder than in hot ones; but the writer does not believe that those who retire to the hills do much hard work. The natives had been protesting against the practice of retiring to the hills for a long time; but the Anglo-Indians held themselves aloof from natives. Fortunately the income-tax has been imposed. This has touched the pockets of Anglo-Indians, and so they are anxious to get rid of the tax. It is a matter of congratulation that natives and Europeans have at last united to protest against the practice.

PARIDARSHAK.

51. The same paper says that in Sylhet roads are constructed through marshes, but a sufficient number of culverts is not provided for the passage of water. The road from Salutikar to Bholagunge is so high and so broad that it may be reckoned as one of the seven wonders of the world. It has a very few culverts, though its length is twelve miles. Owing to the want of water passages water accumulates on one side of the road, and submerges a large tract of the country. The Churkhai road is a glaring example of this defect.

CHARU VARTA.
July 26th, 1886.

52. The *Charu Varta*, of the 26th July, has heard several times previous to this that the natives are not fit for the Executive Service. But the few natives who have become Magistrates of districts have done their work well. The natives have not failed to show their ability in any department they have entered, and so the time for raising the question of their unfitness is gone by. The Finance Committee should see that natives can enter all the departments under the State. The Financial difficulty of the Government will not be over until a large number of natives is appointed to the higher grades of the service.

SAHACHAR,
July 28th, 1886

53. The *Sahachar*, of the 28th July, does not think those are farsighted who want to make the natives of India as much an object of hatred to the English as the Irishmen are. The natives of India do not approve of what the

Irish are doing. India has no Fenians, no secret murderers, and no dynamite. She hates these. Indians of course respect those Irishmen who like Mr. Parnell are trying to secure valuable privileges for their countrymen by constitutional means. Those who blame men like Mr. Parnell are unrighteous. Had the Irish members been an object of hatred to the whole of the British nation, their seats in Parliament would never have been secure. The writer cannot say that the natives of India will not, when the proper time comes, try to extend their political rights by means as constitutional as those adopted by Mr. Parnell. The English also will be obliged to admit that the natives of India too have a right to secure privileges by constitutional means. India does not prosper because the Anglo-Indians do not admit this; and it will not prosper so long as the Anglo-Indians do not consider their interests identical with those of natives. An enquiry should be set on foot into the administration of India. All are unanimous as to the necessity of this enquiry. The Anglo-Indians are in favour of this enquiry. But even in this matter selfishness is guiding them in the wrong course. If the enquiry be not conducted in India it will produce no good result. The Anglo-Indians fully understand this; but selfishness is in this matter too, guiding them in the wrong course. The natives and Anglo-Indians should unite to see that an Enquiry Committee is appointed, that it comes to India, and that it takes the evidence of both natives and Anglo-Indians.

54. The same paper says that Lord Iddesleigh is the President of the Royal Commission appointed for enquiry into the causes of the dullness of

Loss by exchange.

trade. The Commission has recommended the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the causes of the depreciation of silver, and to determine how the same currency can be introduced all over the British Empire. This is sure to take time. The writer is not aware how the new Commission will act.

55. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 29th July, says that whenever India is mentioned in Parliament, the members

The English nation and India.

either talk of domestic affairs or leave the

House. The destinies of 250 millions of Indians are entrusted in the hands of the British Parliament, but it does not pay the least attention to their interests. It is content only with leaving the whole responsibility in the hands of a few irresponsible persons. If these do injustice, there is practically no remedy. Parliament is the only body that can remedy this, but the members are not disposed to attend to the matter. Why should the English nation waste its time upon matters affecting the interests of a conquered and trampled upon people? In fact, there is perhaps no other nation so self-seeking as the English. Self-interest alone has led the English to hold India. It cannot be expected that the English will benefit Indians by sacrificing their own interests; but the condition of the country has become such, that the natives can not be benefited without some sacrifice on the part of Englishmen of their interests. These interests of Englishmen are not equitable, and yet it cannot be expected that the English will disregard these and act with justice. There are many instances of hateful selfishness on the part of the English nation. Before annexing Burmah, the English made the express declaration that British occupation of Burmah would prove greatly beneficial to Englishmen. The Burmese king was ruined simply because the English merchants were likely to benefit by his ruin. Such exhibition of hateful selfishness and pursuit of a hateful policy, are rarely met with. It is idle to expect justice from such a selfish nation.

56. The same paper says that a glance at the coolie law is sufficient to show how dangerous are the acts of Government. This law was enacted

Coolies in Assam.

SAHACHAR,
July 28th, 1886.

BHARAT MIHIR,
July 29th, 1886.

BHARAT MIHIR.

for the express purpose of promoting the interests of the tea-planters of Assam. The Act itself is, as far as possible, injurious to the coolies; while the infringement of its provisions has increased its injurious character a hundredfold. The legislators knew that such a law could not be fairly worked, and yet it was passed out of deference to the interests of the tea-planters. The measure was protested against; but Government did not change its views. Sir Rivers Thompson, Mr. Stokes, and certain other worthy officials vigorously set themselves to help in this work of injustice. Under cover of this law, the tea-planters are practising almost boundless oppression upon the coolies. Government is being perpetually made aware of this, but it is perfectly indifferent to the matter. It is difficult to say how a Government of this sort can expect to be looked upon with respect by the people. The tea-planters of Assam have, through the encouragement given them by the officials, become transformed as it were into brutes. The English officials abet the oppression which is being practised day and night upon the coolies in Assam. In Assam the life of a coolie or the chastity of a coolie woman would seem to be of no value. Offending tea-planters are not being punished. This oppression would long since have ceased if the English Judges had been righteous and done justice to the oppressed. Government it seems does not consider it necessary to open its eyes even when it is made aware of the existence of this oppression. The Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor both possess almost boundless power to put down this oppression, but they are not disposed to exercise this power even in cases where such exercise would be proper. Who is to be held responsible for this state of things? The officials in this country are Englishmen; why should they be anxious to punish English offenders?

SURABHI & PATAKA,
July 29th, 1886.

57. The *Surabhi* and *Pataká*, of the 29th July, hears from the *Statesman* newspaper that the Viceroy's Executive Council proposes to make sweeping reductions, and that the Public Works Department will first come under their pruning knife. Does it not occur to Government that if it gives up going to the hills much savings may be effected?

Reduction of expenditure.

BHARAT MITRA,
July 29th, 1886.

58. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 29th July, says whether Government says anything about its present relations with Russia or not, those relations are evident from events. India is so poor that it is impossible to maintain a large army with Indian money. But the writer suggests some means by which the fear of Russia may be completely removed. These means are:—Trust of natives, and giving them their just rights, and their enrolment as volunteers, and conciliating the native princes and strengthening their army.

Means of removing the probability of Russian success.

BHERI,
July 30th, 1886.

59. The *Bheri*, of the 30th July, says that an application was made to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the removal of prostitutes from the vicinity of schools and of the residences of respectable gentlemen in Calcutta; but unfortunately His Honor has, without giving the matter his due consideration, referred the petitioners to section 43 of Act IV of 1866. But it is not easy to prove the offences contemplated in that section against these public women.

The removal of prostitutes from the vicinity of schools.

BHERI.

60. The same paper thinks that the native papers consider it a part of their duty to oppose every measure adopted by Government. On the one hand they are becoming an object of distrust to Government by writing severely against public measures, by depending on rumour as the source of their information. On the other hand they are alienating the minds of the people from the Government. They are helping to create an estrangement of feelings between the rulers and the ruled.

Criticism of measures of Government in the Press.

61. The *Praja Bandhā*, of the 30th July, says that Bengalis made^d over their country to Englishmen simply to rescue it from oppression and

Government by brute force.

tyranny. The English in those days tried their best to conciliate natives. But now they want to make them feel that "might is the only right." They treat the natives with contempt everywhere. The Burmese war, the Bhopal muddle, the Thibet mission, and other measures of Lord Dufferin's Government make men fear that he is likely to become a second Dalhousie. His policy has agitated the mind of the whole country. The writer is not aware when God will save the people from it.

PRAJA BANDHU,
July 30th, 1886.

62. The same paper says that, even in the worst days of the Mahomedan Government, the highest civil and military appointments under the State were open to natives. But under the Anglo-Indians they are subjected to kicks at every step. During the Mahomedan period Indian revenues were spent in India, but under the English how much of them remains in the country? A third of the revenues is leaving the country for ever.

PRAJA BANDHU.

63. The same paper says that last year Russian representatives were invited to be present at the camp of exercise held at Delhi. Russian Generals came to India and lived for three months here. Lord Dufferin wanted to inspire the Russians with the fear of English arms in India. But a quite contrary result has been produced. Russia now despises the English. She has also learnt a secret, namely that the English do not trust the natives.

Russia at the Camp of Exercise.

PRAJA BANDHU.

64. The *Samaya*, of the 30th July, says that the English people destroy Indian manufactures by manufacturing all the good and useful things which they see made in India. In this manner alwans, Rampuri silk sheets and cloths worn by natives are being manufactured in England. The Indo-Colonial Exhibition will perhaps lead to the destruction of the few remaining industries of India. Thus India will gain nothing from the Exhibition, but, on the contrary, may suffer from it.

The Indo-Colonial Exhibition and Indian industries.

SAMAYA,
July 30th, 1886.

65. The *Pratikār*, of the 30th July, says that the English have ruined native manufactures. The manufacturers have been obliged to give up their trade and to take to other modes of obtaining their livelihood. The Indian and Colonial Exhibition has been opened with a view to ruin the little manufacture that is yet left. The English will now be able to learn the small remainder of Indian arts still left in the hands of the natives. The expenses of sending the exhibits and those of the officers in charge of these have been paid from the Indian treasury. Nothing can be more unjust than this. Indian revenues are being spent in things which will do more harm than good to India. This sort of justice becomes the English Government only.

Manufactures of India.

PRATIKAR,
July 30th, 1886.

66. The same paper hears that another "camp of exercise" like that at Delhi will be held at Rawal Pindi during the next cold weather. The public have not yet forgotten the waste of money and the oppressions practised at the Delhi camp of exercise.

The proposed camp of exercise at Rawal Pindi.

PRATIKAR.

67. The *Arya Pratibhā*, a new paper, of the 31st July, says that the opponents of the mass meetings are afraid that the legislators will in one night deprive the people of the liberty of speech. The writer cannot say from the nature of British Government in India, that the fear is altogether groundless; but he does not understand how the promoters of mass meetings

Mass meetings.

ARYA PRATIBHA,
July 31st, 1886.

can be held responsible for the faults of Government officers. The newspapers point out the defects of those officers with great caution, and advise Government so to rule the country, that good feelings may be promoted between the rulers and the ruled. If then the rulers passes a Gagging Act, are the newspapers to blame? If from fear one cannot speak out freely, if one has always to be afraid of the legislators, then people actually have no liberty. The opponents of mass meetings apprehend a rising of the cultivating class as was the case in France. But the condition of India and of France are so dissimilar that, such an apprehension appears to be altogether groundless. The mass meetings help greatly the unification of the different classes of society.

GRAMBASI,
July 31st, 1886.

68. The *Grámabási*, of the 31st July, says that some of the managers of schools and colleges applied to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for making some

Prostitutes in the vicinity of schools.

good arrangements for preventing prostitutes from alluring weak-minded men, and for preventing their residence in the vicinity of schools and colleges in Calcutta. The writer is sorry that the Lieutenant-Governor has replied that he can not pass any new laws on the subject. Does not the Lieutenant-Governor know that if the people are immoral, there can be no peace in the country?

GRAMBASI.

69. The same paper says that the work of the realization of the income-tax has begun at Uluberia. The man in charge of the work appears to be a good one.

The income-tax at Uluberia.

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1886.

70. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st July, referring to the rumour prevalent in Darjeeling that Babu Sarat Chundra Das has been dismissed, says that it was very sorry to hear of this and that it is

Rumour about the dismissal of Baboo Sarat Chandra Das.

very glad to learn from a confidential source, that the rumour is false.

SANJIVANI.

71. The same paper is sorry that the people of Julpigoree cannot use the local Town Hall, though they have obtained it. The Town Hall was given to the people of Julpigoree by the Maharaja of

The hall given to the people of Julpigoree by the Maharaja of Cooch Behar.

Cooch Behar. The road cess office is now located in that hall. The Deputy Commissioner has refused to give the Town Hall for the use of the people on the ground that, the road cess office will suffer inconvenience if the hall has to be given up by it. The writer does not see why a building cannot be erected for the location of the road cess office out of the proceeds of the road cess which is collected from the people.

BANGABASI,
July 31st, 1886.

72. The *Bangabási*, of the 31st July, says that the military expenditure of India has been permanently increased by the employment of 10,000 additional

The financial difficulty of Government and the exchange rates.

English soldiers. Government is unable to meet expenses even by continually increasing the burden of taxation. In 1873 the income of the Government of India was 56 crores of rupees, and the expenditure also was nearly the same. But in 1885 the income had been raised to 75 crores of rupees, and the expenditure exceeded that sum. Thus in 10 to 12 years the expenditure increased by 20 to 22 crores, and the income also had to be increased by that amount. Still the expenses can not be met, and the burden of debt is increasing every year. In 1857 the debt of India amounted to 60 crores of rupees. Now the debt amounts to 160 crores of rupees. Thus the debt has increased by 100 crores in 28 years. During the 100 years from 1757, when the British Empire was founded by Clive to 1857, the debt of Government amounted only to 60 crores. But between 1857 and 1885, a period of 28 years, the debt has increased by 100 crores. In England the national debt is diminishing every year by four crores of rupees, but in India the debt of Government is increas-

ing every year by more than four crores. Taxes which are no sources of hardship to India, but which are objected to by British merchants, are being repealed; but the burden of taxation has been increased in other ways. The exchequer has become empty owing to wasteful expenditure. In matters in which Government is very niggardly in the case of natives, it is very liberal in the case of Europeans. Twenty crores of rupees are sent annually by Government to England, and five or six crores of rupees have to be paid as exchange rates for that sum. Englishmen have monopolised all the high offices in the country. Consequently the expenditure is ten times as high as it would have been if natives had been appointed to those posts. No officers in any other country obtain such high salaries as the English officials in India. Those who cannot probably earn even Rs. 100 a month in England by working day and night obtain a salary of Rs. 1,000 in India. The Viceroy obtains three lakh, and seventy thousands of rupees every year as salary and allowances; in other words, he obtains eight times the monthly income of the Prime Minister of England. The annual salary of the Lieutenant-Governor is one lakh of rupees. His allowances are not fixed. If in England the salaries of the highest officers had been fixed at such high sums, the people would have rebelled. It is a fearful thing that nothing is obtained in return for five crores out of the 72 crores of revenue derived from India every year. Government had to impose an income-tax for an annual income of only 80 lakhs of rupees. Things have now come to such a pass that, it does not seem probable that the exchange rates will ever be abolished. European merchants and officers send home nearly twenty crores. Thus India, which had formerly to send to England 35 to 36 crores of rupees, has now to send to England 40 to 42 crores of rupees. The income of all India does not amount to more than 400 crores of rupees annually, and thus the income of each Indian is annually Rs. 20 only. But of this sum Rs. 4 have to be paid in the shape of taxes. Consequently each Indian has to pay Rs. 2 annually out of his income of Rs. 20 for filling the mouths of the people of England. Every Indian has also to pay 4 annas annually as exchange rates. One's blood curdles when one thinks of the gloomy prospect before the country.

73. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 31st July, says that Government has commenced to go to Simla from the time of the sepoy war. Government officers want to

The Town Hall meeting.

say that if Government had remained at Simla, the sepoy war could not have taken place. The writer does not understand what the residence of Government in Calcutta has to do with the sepoy war. The writer does not mean to say that Government should remain confined in Calcutta. The Members of the Viceregal Council may tour in different provinces. The writer has no objection to that. He objects to the system of idling away eight months in the year in the hills. He does not understand why the Public Works, Commissariat, Survey, Revenue, and Postal Departments go to Simla. In these days of electric telegraph, intelligence can be received very easily. Why should Government then migrate year after year with bag and baggage? Government officers think that the agitators will be easily silenced by the name of rebellion, and the authorities in England will not say anything on the subject. They are greatly mistaken if they think so. The history of the sepoy war is known to every one. It had nothing to do with the residence of Government either in Simla or in Calcutta. It had its origin in oppression and high-handedness. If Government practises oppression again on the native princes or on its own troops, there is sure to be a rebellion again. The ease-loving officers of Government have displayed their worthlessness by raising an apprehension of rebellion. They say that the commerce of Calcutta is decreasing and that of Bombay is increasing. If Government is to remain

BHARAT BASI,
July 31st 1886.

at one place, it should not remain in Calcutta. This is an argument put forward by the Public Works Department which has in seven years raised large buildings both in Calcutta and Simla, and which still thirsts for more buildings. The supporters of Government say that the rapid extension of railways and telegraphs is to be attributed chiefly to the fact that Government has to go to Simla every year. They say that Self-Government owes its origin to the same thing. The writer doubts greatly the truth of this statement. When the officers enter the Indian service they get a very large salary because the climate of India is bad. It is therefore intolerable that Government should spend money for the comfort of its officers and impose taxes on the people.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

74. The *Navavibhakar Sādhārānī*, of the 2nd August, says that it is needless to say that the educated native community is the eye-sore of Anglo-Indians.

Anglo-Indians and Self-Government.

Both official and non-official Anglo-Indians consider natives to be infants, at least wish that they should suffer themselves to be led by others like infants. The political life of Indians has received a new impetus owing to the introduction of Self-Government. The Municipal rate-payers are shewing interest in the election of Commissioners. The Municipal Commissioners are showing great enthusiasm in protecting the interests of the rate-payers. Equal enthusiasm is being shown in the election of the members of Local Boards. This is not pleasant to Anglo-Indians. Finding one or two black sheep in the Self-Government Boards, they are abusing all the members of the Boards, and ridiculing Lord Ripon who introduced the measure of Self-Government. Upon finding a few black sheep in the Backergunge Road Cess Committee and in the Howrah, Baranagore, and Suburban Municipalities, the Anglo-Indians are now triumphantly saying that they said beforehand that, such things would happen if the right of Self-Government were given to a large extent.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

75. The *Srimanta Sadāgar*, of the 2nd August, complains that piece-goods imported from Manchester are often found to be of short measure. Pieces

Short measure of piece-goods.

marked 38 yards measure only 35, those marked 20 yards measure only 18. The Manchester merchants, with a view to deceive the natives, have recourse to this unfair means. Agitation has been going on for a long time in the newspapers on this subject. The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce is anxious to remedy this evil. The writer hopes that the Chamber will succeed in checking the evil and in conferring a great benefit on the community.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

76. The *Ananda Bazar Patrikā*, of the 2nd August, says that Lord Dufferin has not done anything to fulfil the expectations held out by him to the people of this country. On the contrary, he has in many matters acted in a manner likely to disappoint those expectations. But whatever injury he may have done in other matters there can be no doubt that, by imposing the income-tax and by his proposal to abolish the Original Side of the High Court, he has endeavoured to confer great benefits upon this country. It is to be regretted that both these measures have been objected to by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee.

The income-tax and the Original Side of the High Court.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Aug. 4th, 1886.

77. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th August, says that the letter-box at Ketugram is rarely opened, and asks the post-master of Bunwariabad to reprove the peon for it.

The letter-box at Ketugram.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 7th, 1886.

78. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 7th August, says that an article was published in the *Spectator* newspaper some time ago supporting the policy of Lord

Letters in support of Lord Dufferin's policy.

Dufferin. Recently a letter has been published in the same paper purporting to have been written by a Bengali in support of the constitution of the Finance Committee. The letter says that His Lordship did not extend the sphere of the Committee's action simply because a Parliamentary Committee was at that time about to be appointed. This may be true, but why was the Committee composed entirely of officials? Why were independent members not appointed to it though the whole country demanded the appointment of such men? After this who can say that the Viceroy respects public opinion? The arguments advanced by the correspondent seem to be ludicrous.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

79. The *Púrva Bangabási*, of the 25th July, says that under the present law a decree-holder can realise his debts any way he likes. He can either put up the properties of the judgment-debtor to sale, or can put him in prison. However unreasonable the prayer of the creditor may be, the court is bound to grant it. Even those who are by rank exempted from attendance in civil courts can be easily put in prison at the sweet will of the creditor. The practice of imprisoning debtors is barbarous, and is in vogue in India alone. This barbarous practice will now be done away with to a very great extent.

PURVA BANGABASI,
July 25th, 1886.

80. The *Sahachar*, of the 28th July, is glad to notice that Sir Rivers Thompson has admitted that bad men were as a rule appointed punchayets because the police had the nomination of punchayets in their own hands. If the Magistrates now make the nomination, better men are likely to be appointed. But Sir Rivers should have asked the Commissioners to request the Magistrates not to be high-handed in this matter. The writer is sorry that the distribution of the pay of the chowkidars will, under the new law, virtually fall into the hands of the police. The writer has asked many chowkidars, and they are unanimous in disapproving of the system of payment through the police. The writer hopes that Magistrates will find out some other agency for making payments to the chowkidars. Had Union Committees been established, educated men would have become anxious to become their members. But these Committees are not going to be established. The punchayets are a part of self-government. The writer hopes that people will be equally anxious for becoming members of the punchayets. If the punchayets fail owing to the indifference of the people, it will be shameful.

SAHACHAR,
July 28th, 1886.

81. The *Som Prakash*, of the 2nd August, says that some of the native papers expressed their dissatisfaction at the appointment of Moulvie Syud Amir Hossain to the Viceregal Council, and so the Mahomedans say that the Hindus are jealous of them. They would have disapproved the appointment of any Hindu gentleman if the grounds on which they disapprove that of the Syud were present in his case. Raja Sivaprasad is a Hindu, but no Hindu would like to see him in the Council for a single moment. The Syud is like Sivaprasad, a flatterer of the rulers, and unpopular among his countrymen. Moreover, he is a Government servant. It is impossible for him to display moral courage and energy.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

82. The same paper says that some are of opinion that instead of abolishing imprisonment for debt altogether the Legislative Council should make the prisoners in civil jails work till they succeed in paying off their debts. But there will be some difficulty about females of high families, who are, owing to the customs of the country, capable of doing nothing. The writer cannot approve of the system of imprisoning men for their debts.

SOM PRAKASH.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BHARAT BASI,
Aug. 1st, 1886.

83. In noticing Sir Lepel Griffin's book on Native Princes and the administration of their States, the *Bhārat Bāsi* of the 31st July, says that to insult the Princes seems to be the object of the book. In one place of the book he says, "I believe that there is no class of the people who are more sincerely attached by the strong bonds of hope and fear to the British Government than is the cultivating population of the native States. They see with eyes which want and hunger have made preternaturally keen, that the difference between the British and the native administration is often a very real one, and they announce in no ambiguous voice which they prefer." This seems to be a suppression of fact. It is a fact very well known that a large number of British Indian subjects have migrated to the native States. The exactions of the British Government have made the recurrence of a famine in every eight years almost inevitable, and Government spends nothing to relieve its famine-stricken people. On the other hand, famines are rare in Native States, and they spend money with a lavish hand for the relief of the subjects. The subjects of the Princes are certainly happier than those of British India. Sir Lepel Griffin with all his endeavours will not be able to make white appear black. The administration of Native States may be faulty, but faultless administration is very rare. There may be Beadons in the Gawalior Jail too. Even Sir Lepel Griffin will not be able to say that the administration of justice in British India is faultless.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 1st, 1886.

84. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 1st August, says that Babu Dinanath Sen, though he has been in the service of the Maharaja of Tipperah only for a short time, has succeeded in increasing the Maharaja's income a good deal, and it is not wonderful that those who have become losers by his measures should combine against him. The writer hopes that the Maharaja will not be deceived by what the conspirators against Dina Babu may say.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Aug. 2nd, 1886.

85. The *Sār Sudhānidhi*, of the 2nd August, says that Government may make a new treaty with Cashmere for its own interest, but the provision forbidding the killing of cows should be kept in the new treaty. Hindus can bear all oppressions, but not the killing of cows. If cows are killed, the people of Cashmere as well as the soldiers of that State may rise against the English Government.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

PRATIKAR,
July 30th, 1886.

86. The *Pratikar*, of the 30th July, says that the condition of the tracts lying on both sides of the Ganges from Cutwa to Berhampore is deplorable indeed, as all the rice and indigo crops on the *chur* lands have been submerged. There is great apprehension of the country being ruined this year in the same way as last year. The river rose 29 feet 8 inches last year. This year it has already risen 24 feet, though the rainy season has not yet sufficiently advanced. The embankment on the Katigunga near Farashdanga to the north of Berhampore has either given way or been cut open by some body. Water has rushed from the Katigunga, submerging a considerable area of rice land. The writer often requested Government to repair the embankment at Lalitakundi. It did not consent to repair it at first. But a temporary embankment has been subsequently thrown up. The water has already risen so high that it seriously threatens that embankment, which is sure to give way and wash away a great part of Nuddea, Jessore, and the 24-Pergunnahs.

URIYA PAPERS.

87. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, gives a graphic description of the death from cholera of a large number of pilgrims who returned from Jaggarnath and passed through the district of Balasore. Many of them, remarks the paper, dropped down on the Grand Trunk Road utterly helpless and without a friend or acquaintance to attend on them in their last moments. The paper further regrets that these pilgrims spread the cholera seeds along the villages through which the Grand Trunk Road passes. Thus cholera affected the Balasore town as is found from the death of a certain number of its residents from that fatal disease.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
July 22nd, 1886.

88. The *Sebaka*, also attributes the prevalence of cholera in Cuttack to those returning pilgrims. It regrets to learn that some of them were allowed to come within the municipal limits of that town, though this was done in violation of the standing orders.

SEBAKA,
July 24th, 1886.

89. The *Utkal Dipikā* points out the irregularities of steamers belonging to private companies, that ply between Cuttack and Chandbally. The editor gathers from the testimony of a police inspector that some of the steamers, such as *Jack, Gunesh, &c.*, were seen so overcrowded with passengers that some died of suffocation. Even the cargo-boats were seen crowded with human beings, who were seen to struggle with one another for getting at the windows of those boats. The inconvenience of the pilgrims may be judged from the fact that at a station named Juggutpur, situated at a distance of about four miles from the Cuttack town, eatables were sold at a famine price. A few morsels of gram, valued at the utmost ten pice, were sold for the exorbitant sum of eight annas. The paper draws the attention of the district authorities to this lamentable state of things.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
July 24th, 1886

90. The same paper reports that, notwithstanding the presence of a large number of pilgrims in the Puri town, the district authorities managed the details of the car festival in such a creditable way as to minimise to the utmost the number of accidents. Excepting the death of one man and the wounds of another, who were mauled suddenly by a bull that unexpectedly made its way through the shouting crowd, there were no accidents worthy of notice. The number of pilgrims present in the Puri town during the car festival has been estimated by this paper at 70,000 souls.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

91. A brisk controversy is going on between the same paper and its contemporary of the *Sebaka* regarding the selection of certain text-books for the vernacular schools made by the Orissa Text-Book Committee. The *Sebaka* supports the selection made by the Committee, whereas the *Utkal Dipikā* vehemently opposes the same, and charges the Committee with selfishness and partiality. The books that form the subject of this controversy are *Pathmala* and *Swasthyasadhan*, the former having been made a text-book in the primary and the latter in the upper primary schools.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

92. A *Gumsur* correspondent of same paper points out that the Uriyas of the Ganjam district in the Madras Presidency have in a manner been politically disqualified to hold respectable posts under the Government of Madras. The few important posts existing in the Uriya portion of that Presidency have been invariably monopolised by Telugu and Kamma Brahmins, in whose favour the Madras authorities entertain strong prejudices. The very fact of the *Telugu* being made the court language in Ganjam and Gumsur

SEBAKA.
July 24th, 1886.

which are decidedly inhabited by Uriya-knowing people, has been the cause, observes the correspondent, of great inconvenience to the people in general, for notices, warrants, &c., are issued to them in *Telugu* of which they know nothing, and thus the injunctions of the court are not carried out in time. The correspondent and the editor of the paper hope that, the Government of India will preceive the full force of the complaint, and issue an order making Urya the court language of that part of the Madras Presidency, which is inhabited by the Uriya-speaking people.

SEBAKA,
July 24th, 1886.

93. The same paper has the following in an article headed the "Local Self-Government Act:—

The Local Self-Government Act.

"The Act has been passed long since. Rules framed under it have also been translated and published in the vernacular gazettes. The wonder is that the Act has not yet been made operative in any of the divisions of the Bengal Presidency. The application of the principles of Local Self-Government with ease and facility to the Central Provinces, and the North-Western Provinces makes us infer that the State machinery in Bengal must be very slow and cautious. The temporary excitement of the people consequent on the announcement of Lord Ripon's liberal and patriotic policy has subsided, and our people attracted by other passing events of the day have forgotten everything about the Local Self-Government Act. At last the last issue of the *Calcutta Gazette* makes us confident that, before the current year has closed many of the districts of Bengal will have enjoyed the benefits of Local Self-Government.

Unfortunately Bengal has been too cautious and diffident. The announcement of the fact that Magistrates will preside over District Boards for the first year will be looked upon by the people as the first instalment of a policy that means to frustrate the very objects which the Act had in view, namely, free and independent action on the part of the members of District and Local Boards, and the absence of all interference from the official bureaucracy. It will perhaps be urged that the members of District Boards will be new to their duties, and that they must stand in need of a guiding hand to make them pass through all the forms of discipline and responsibility with patience and pains. The same was urged while the new Municipal Act was brought into operation, but experience has shown that our municipal bodies have worked well without the aid of a Magistrate to preside over them.

In the same way we object to that resolution of Government which prohibits the formation of Union Committees for the present. It is a pity that the provisions of a tolerably good Act should have been thus hampered in their operation by a set of injudicious, disgusting, and prohibitory rules, which have nothing in them to commend them to the notice of the Members of Local and District Boards.

As the Act is to operate first in the Presidency, Burdwan, Dacca, and Patna Divisions, we have neither to gain nor to lose for the present; but we do not at all understand the reasons which led our Legislators to exclude Orissa from the schedule of districts, selected for immediate application of the Act in view. We request the political associations of Orissa to make a move in the matter, and apply for the extension of the Act to Orissa with the same energy, talent, and wisdom which they displayed while the Act was in embryo."

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 7th August 1886.